

According to the complete set of results published in CLRG's *Ceim Magazine*, the following *Eastern Canadian* dancers placed at the **1986 CLRG World Irish Dancing Championships** (held at the Savoy Centre, Amharchlann na Féile and Carlton Cinema in Limerick, Ireland from March 25-April 01):

1. Girls 9-11 Clare Casey, Grant School – **3rd Place and Overseas Award**
2. Boys 13-15 Ryan Carroll, Butler Academy – **3rd Place and Overseas Award**
3. Girls 14-15 Sheila Nother, Fearon School – **13th Place**
4. Girls 15-16 Kathleen Kennedy, Butler Academy – **11th Place**
5. Girls 16-17 Caroline Flanagan, Masters Academy – **4th Place and Overseas Award**
6. Ladies 17-19 Karen Garrett, Fearon School – **8th Place**
7. Ladies 17-19 Cathy Canavan, Butler Academy – **12th Place**
8. Men 17-19 Michael Farrell, Butler Academy – **3rd Place and Overseas Award**
9. Ladies 19+ Denise Travers, Fearon School – **14th Place**
10. Men 19+ Brian Grant, Grant School – **1st Place WORLD CHAMPION**

Overseas Award

This award (usually a piece of Irish crystal or a plaque) was awarded to the highest-placing dancer not resident in Ireland and/or the UK for solo events, and to the highest-placing teams not resident in Ireland. This began as the Bord Failte award in 1972 (and was re-branded as the Aer Lingus award in 1974) as a way to guarantee recognition to dancers from all over the world, when the majority of prizes (at least in the early years) remained in Ireland. NOTE: The award was never presented to a dancer or team that placed first!

A2/ THE TORONTO STAR, SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1986 *

Clare rates in County Clare

North York's Clare Casey came back from two weeks in Ireland last weekend to find she had plenty of time to catch up on her schoolwork. She's a Grade 5 student at St. Agnes School, just south of Steeles Ave. E., one of the 219 separate schools where the teachers went out on strike last Monday.

Clare placed third out of 216 contestants in the International Traditional Irish Dancing Competition, held this year in Limerick, which just so happens to be in County Clare.

Clare's category was called Minor Girls, for those under the age of 11 when chosen. That makes a difference, because Clare celebrated her 11th birthday on the plane going over. Her father, an assistant manager with an employee benefits consulting firm, and another relative went with her.

Clare told us she wouldn't have gone to school, anyway, because she brought back a case of flu, but she also bought a lot of souvenirs. "Most of them were for my friends — a chain, a cross, a little statue of a leprechaun and," she added with a giggle, "some shamrock seeds."

The part of the trip she liked best was "going places, like to Castle Clare where a lot of my relatives live — cousins and aunts and uncles. We stayed with them for a week." Clare is a veteran traveller. This was her fourth trip to Ireland and the third time she competed there.

"My first trip the whole family went. (Michael and Anna Casey have two sons and two daughters 9 to 16.) On the second trip I finished 22nd, but last year I didn't get anything, except to get into the finals," she said.

Traditional Irish dancing takes lots of practice, as Clare's father knows. "Her teacher is in Mississauga and I have to drive her over there twice a week, 52 weeks a year," he said. Make that 50 — he had two weeks in Ireland.

Canadian wins dance contest

From Arthur Quinlan,
in Limerick

THERE were more than 2,000 entries for the World Dancing Championships in Limerick and a Canadian-born student, aged 19, from Ississauga, Ontario, won the Senior Men's World Irish Dancing Championship last evening. He is Brian Grant (19), of the Grant School of Dancing, Ontario, who last year won the Junior Men's title when the world championships were held in Dublin.

In order to win he had had to compete in five dances from reels, jigs, hornpipes and two set pieces. Thirty competed.

Mississauga man judged best at world Irish jig championship

By John Robinson Toronto Star

Brian Grant is dancing a jig for joy these days.

If he wanted to, he could also dance a reel and a hornpipe, because this 20-year-old Mississauga man has been recently judged the top male Irish dancer in the world.

Grant took top honors in the World Championship of Irish Dancing in Limerick, Ireland by beating out 36 dancers who had been judged best in national competitions across North America and the Commonwealth.

"I felt such relief when I won," Grant says. "I had worked so hard for the championships this year and I wasn't that confident because there were so many great dancers."

Ultimate crown

Grant, who is in his first year of general sciences at the University of Toronto's Erindale College has been exercising hard for the past year, skipping rope and practising for hours, and that has cut into his academic efforts (although he is still maintaining a B+ to A-average).

The young dancer, whose mother, Bridgid, teaches Irish dancing in her Mississauga home and at the Etobicoke Olympium, has won two world championships before, but in younger age categories; the senior mens' title he now holds is considered the ultimate crown.

Irish dancing "involves a lot of footwork," Grant says. "There's no hand motion and the face is relaxed. You look like you're sitting down from the waist up. From the waist down is where you do all the work."

Two pairs of shoes are used in the competition, a soft shoe used when doing a lot of jumping or lifting off the ground and a hard shoe with plastic heels used to create interesting rhythms. The plastic heels are also clicked in mid-air in one of the jumps; very good dancers can click them twice or with back three times in mid-air.

Despite the rigors of training, Irish dancing has not been all hard work for Grant. The 6-foot, 1-inch dancer, who also plays piano and accordion, spent so much time last summer travelling to competitions in Scotland, England, Ireland



SHARON OGDREY/TORONTO STAR

Clicking his heels: Brian Grant of Mississauga holds the trophy he won as best male Irish dancer in the world. Now he plans to concentrate on his studies at the University of Toronto.

Texas and California that he says he "came back with a gut from drinking too many beers."

And when he finishes his exams

at the end of this month, he is probably heading down to Beverly Hills to visit a fellow who is researching a movie about Irish dancing.

The Irish Canadian Centre hails the following World Champion Dancers who placed in Limerick this Easter.

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| Brian Grant | 1 | Grant School |
| Clare Casey | 3 | Grant School |
| Ryan Carroll | 3 | Butler Academy |
| Michael Farrell | 3 | Butler Academy |
| Caroline Flanagan | 4 | Masters Academy |
| Karen Garrett | 8 | Rosie Fearon |
| Kathleen Kennedy | 11 | Butler Academy |
| Cathy Canavan | 12 | Butler Academy |
| Sheila Nothers | 13 | Rosie Fearon |